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DDASaccident575

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database
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DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 13/06/2008	Accident number: 575
Accident time: Not recorded	Accident Date: 25/04/1999
Where it occurred: Ravnište, Brus	Country: Serbia
Primary cause: Inadequate training (?)	Secondary cause: Other (?)
Class: Handling accident	Date of main report: None
ID original source: None	Name of source: Printed report
Organisation: [Name removed]	
Mine/device: BLU-97 submunition	Ground condition: not recorded
Date record created:	Date last modified: 13/06/2008
No of victims: 1	No of documents: 1

Map details

Longitude:	Latitude:
Alt. coord. system: Not recorded	Coordinates fixed by:
Map east:	Map north:
Map scale:	Map series:
Map edition:	Map sheet:
Map name:	

Accident Notes

inadequate investigation (?)

no independent investigation available (?)

Accident report

No Formal accident report was made available. The details of the accident are drawn from a study entitled "The impact of cluster munitions in Serbia and Montenegro" by Jelena Vićentić for Norwegian People's Aid 2007. <http://www.npaid.org/filestore/YellowKillersNPA.pdf> Text in square brackets [] is editorial. This record will be revised if more information becomes available.

Two army EOD specialists have been seriously injured, both suffering amputations. [This is the second of those victims. No details of how the accident occurred have been made available. It is inferred that he touched the submunition in order to move it because this was the common feature in other accidents with this munition at this time.]

Victim injured during submunition disposal....seriously injured... suffering amputations

The Netherlands, UK and the USA all used cluster munitions during the conflict. Although figures remain subject to final verification, it appears that the USA was the biggest user, having dispersed 269,858 submunitions alone during the conflict. The UK dropped 78,057 submunitions from (R)BL 755 cluster bombs on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including up to 14,700 in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia outside Kosovo; and the Netherlands dropped a total of 33,330 BLU-97 submunitions.

Victim Report

Victim number: 751	Name: [Name removed]
Age:	Gender: Male
Status: deminer	Fit for work: not known
Compensation: Not recorded	Time to hospital: Not recorded
Protection issued: Not recorded	Protection used: Not recorded

Summary of injuries:

COMMENT

Seriously injured, suffering amputations. No medical report was made available.

Analysis

The primary cause of this accident is listed as “Inadequate training” because it the Victims of accidents at this time had not been trained in the dangers associated with touching and moving the BLU-97. The training was not available, so no criticism is intended. The secondary cause is listed as “Other” because no details of the accident are known.

This record will be revised if more information is made available.